

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Claims 8, 9, and 11–14 were rejected as anticipated by Burrows. Claim 8 recites “wherein at least one of said lamp layers includes a UV-cured resin and the remaining lamp layers include a heat-cured resin.” The Examiner relies on paragraph [0144] of the Burrows publication, reproduced in part below.

[0144] “Printed layers of polyurethane ink would be built up layer by layer with either heat curing or ultra violet curing or a combination of both.”

1. As clearly indicated by the heading in paragraph [0131] “Advanced Printed Circuitry Technology,” the paragraph [0144] relates to printed circuits, not EL lamps. Therefore, the disclosure is irrelevant and there is no anticipation.
2. “Lamp layers” is a defined term; specification, page 4, lines 5–6 (“lamp layers (between and including the electrodes)”). The disclosure does not concern lamp layers. The same disclosure is not made with respect to lamp layers.

The quoted disclosure does not render the recitation obvious.

1. Lamp layers and printed circuits present separate and distinct problems to those skilled in the art.
2. As noted in the rest of the sentence defining lamp layers, “in general, the industry has followed the layers-having-similar-chemistry maxim pronounced in the Harper et al. patent, particularly for the lamp layers.” In other words, conventional practice is to have the layers the same.

Claims 1–4, 6, 7, 10, and 15 were rejected as unpatentable over Burrows in view of Eckersley et al. The disclosure relied upon in the Eckersley patent reads as follows.

Some lamps may require rear insulators which can be screen printed or taped onto the back of the rear electrode. This prevents the rear electrode from shorting to an external material. The insulator may be formed from the terpolymer or PVDF-TFE copolymer described above, or may be made from an ultraviolet curable ink.

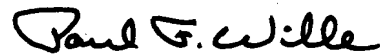
The terpolymers or copolymers “described above” do not include low molecular weight PVDF/HFP resin as recited in applicants’ and as described in 6,445,128, incorporated by reference into applicants’ specification. In the absence of

disclosure, there can be no teaching. Thus, claims 1-4, 6, 7, 10, and 15 are believed patentable over the Burrows publication and Eckersley et al.

The allowance in substance of claim 5 is noted with appreciation.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-15 are in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul F. Wille".

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